

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1127**

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Solorio**

February 27, 2009

---

An act to amend Sections 17074.50, 17074.52, and 17074.56 of the Education Code, relating to school facilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1127, as introduced, Solorio. School facilities: automatic fire sprinkler system.

Existing law, the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998, requires the State Allocation Board to allocate to applicant school districts, prescribed per-unhoused-pupil state funding for construction and modernization of school facilities, including hardship funding, and supplemental funding for site development and acquisition. Existing law requires all modernization projects that have an estimated total cost in excess of \$200,000 submitted to the Division of the State Architect, including hardship applications, that require the approval of the Department of General Services to include an automatic fire detection and alarm system approved by the State Fire Marshal. The automatic fire detection and alarm system is required to consist of smoke or heat detectors, or a combination of smoke and heat detectors, installed in the school building.

Existing law requires the board to adjust the per-pupil grant amount as necessary to accommodate 80% of the increased costs due to the automatic fire detection and alarm system.

This bill would require, on and after July 1, 2010, that modernization projects that have an estimated cost of more than \$500,000 have an automatic fire sprinkler system installed throughout the school building

in accordance with building standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal. The bill would require the board also to adjust the per-pupil grant amount as necessary to accommodate 80% of the increased costs due to the automatic fire sprinkler system.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 17074.50 of the Education Code is  
2 amended to read:

3 17074.50. (a) On and after July 1, 2002, all new construction  
4 projects submitted to the Division of the State Architect pursuant  
5 to this chapter, including, but not limited to, hardship applications,  
6 that require the approval of the Department of General Services  
7 shall include an automatic fire detection, alarm, and sprinkler  
8 system as set forth in Section 17074.52 and approved by the State  
9 Fire Marshal. These provisions shall entitle the school district to  
10 all applicable reductions in code requirements, as provided in the  
11 California Building Standards Code (Title 24 of the California  
12 Code of Regulations).

13 (b) On and after July 1, 2002, all modernization projects that  
14 have an estimated total cost in excess of two hundred thousand  
15 dollars (\$200,000) submitted to the Division of the State Architect  
16 pursuant to this chapter, including, but not limited to, hardship  
17 applications, that require the approval of the Department of General  
18 Services shall include an automatic fire detection and alarm system  
19 as set forth in Section 17074.52 and approved by the State Fire  
20 Marshal. For a modernization project that is to be completed in  
21 more than one phase, the school district may defer installation of  
22 the system until the final phase of the modernization project. Solely  
23 for purposes of this section, “modernization” means any  
24 modification of a permanent structure or construction of a new  
25 building on an existing campus.

26 (c) *On and after July 1, 2010, all modernization projects that*  
27 *have an estimated total cost in excess of five hundred thousand*  
28 *dollars (\$500,000) submitted to the Division of the State Architect*  
29 *pursuant to this chapter, including, but not limited to, hardship*  
30 *applications, that require the approval of the Department of*  
31 *General Services shall include an automatic fire sprinkler system*

1 *as set forth in Section 17074.52 and approved by the State Fire*  
2 *Marshal. For a modernization project that is to be completed in*  
3 *more than one phase, the school district may defer installation of*  
4 *the system until the final phase of the modernization project. Solely*  
5 *for purposes of this section, “modernization” means any*  
6 *modification of a permanent structure or construction of a new*  
7 *building on an existing campus.*

8 (e)

9 ~~(d) The Department of General Services department~~ shall  
10 administer this section based upon the standards adopted by the  
11 State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section 17074.52.

12 SEC. 2. Section 17074.52 of the Education Code is amended  
13 to read:

14 17074.52. (a) (1) For modernization projects, the automatic  
15 fire detection and alarm system required pursuant to subdivision  
16 (b) of Section 17074.50 shall consist of smoke or heat detectors,  
17 or a combination thereof, as determined by the State Fire ~~Marshal~~  
18 *Marshal*, installed in the school building. The alarm, upon  
19 activation of an initiating device, shall alert all occupants and shall  
20 transmit the alarm signal to an approved supervising station.

21 (2) *For modernization projects, the automatic fire sprinkler*  
22 *system required pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 17074.50*  
23 *shall consist of an automatic fire sprinkler system installed*  
24 *throughout the school building in accordance with building*  
25 *standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal.*

26 (b) For new construction projects, the automatic fire detection,  
27 alarm, and sprinkler system required pursuant to subdivision (a)  
28 of Section 17074.50, shall in addition to compliance with  
29 subdivision (a), include an automatic fire sprinkler system installed  
30 in the school building including, but not necessarily limited to,  
31 attic spaces.

32 (c) Notwithstanding Section 17074.50 or subdivisions (a) or (b)  
33 of this section, for a stand alone portable building, the system  
34 required pursuant to this article shall consist of an automatic fire  
35 detection and alarm system. For the purposes of this subdivision  
36 a “stand alone portable building” means a portable building that  
37 is used as a single classroom and that is sited more than 25 feet  
38 from any other building, including, but not limited to, any other  
39 portable building.

1 (d) Except as required for automatic fire detectors and waterflow  
2 detection devices, manual fire alarm boxes shall not be required  
3 throughout the school building.

4 (e) The entire system shall be installed, tested, and maintained  
5 in accordance with the regulations of the State Fire Marshal.

6 SEC. 3. Section 17074.56 of the Education Code is amended  
7 to read:

8 17074.56. (a) ~~The State Allocation Board~~ *board* shall adjust  
9 the per-pupil grant amount set forth in Section 17072.10 as  
10 necessary to accommodate 50 percent of the increased costs due  
11 to the automatic fire detection, alarm, and sprinkler system required  
12 pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 17074.50. The board shall  
13 adjust the per-pupil grant amount set forth in Section 17074.10 as  
14 necessary to accommodate 80 percent of the increased costs due  
15 to the automatic fire detection and alarm system required pursuant  
16 to subdivision (b) of Section 17074.50 *and the automatic fire*  
17 *sprinkler system required pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section*  
18 *17074.50*. The board shall establish a method to provide up to 100  
19 percent of the increased costs of the automatic fire detection, alarm,  
20 and sprinkler, ~~if applicable~~, systems for school districts which  
21 qualify for hardship assistance pursuant to paragraph (1) of  
22 subdivision (b) of Section 17075.10.

23 (b) By July 1, 2003, the board shall review the adequacy of the  
24 per-pupil grant adjustments made pursuant to subdivision (a) and  
25 shall increase or decrease those adjustments as determined to be  
26 necessary.

27 (c) ~~Any~~ A project submitted to the Division of the State Architect  
28 on or after September 1, 2001, that includes a qualifying fire  
29 detection, alarm, and sprinkler, ~~if applicable~~, system, and that has  
30 not been fully funded prior to July 1, 2002, shall be eligible for  
31 grant or eligibility adjustments as set forth in this article.